

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SJR 475

March 28, 2012

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (015822): Deletes and substitutes the first resolving clause. Proposes amending Article VI, Sections 3 and 7 and Article VII, Section 5 of the Tennessee Constitution to provide that each judge of the Supreme Court be selected via merit-based gubernatorial appointment and be legislatively confirmed. Notwithstanding Article VI, Section 4, judges of any intermediate appellate courts shall be nominated, appointed, and elected in the same manner as judges of the Supreme Court. Resolves that this amendment be referred to the 108th General Assembly and that this resolution be published in compliance with Article XI, Section 3 of the Tennessee Constitution.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures - \$18,000/One-Time

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- A one-time cost of \$18,000 to the Secretary of State to print notice of the proposed amendment in statutorily designated newspapers as required by this resolution.
- According to the Secretary of State, the average statewide cost to publish the last three constitutional amendments was \$17,700.
- Because Article XI, Section 3 of the Constitution requires publication of the resolution before the next legislative election, this publication would occur in the spring of 2012.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/rct